

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 28. (New) A method for generating a diverse set of travel options, the method comprising:

receiving a candidate set of travel options;  
for a plurality of travel requirements, selecting one or more travel options for a specified travel requirement that satisfies that specified travel requirement; and  
combining the travel options selected for the plurality of travel requirement to generate the diverse set of travel options.

Claim 29. (New) The method of claim 28 further comprising rendering the diverse set of travel options on an output device.

Claim 30. (New) The method of claim 28 further comprising eliminating from the plurality of travel requirements a first travel requirement when the one or more travel options selected for a second travel requirement satisfy the first travel requirement.

Claim 31. (New) The method of claim 28 wherein at least one of the travel requirements within the plurality is not a user entered travel requirement.

Claim 32. (New) The method of claim 28 wherein the travel requirements comprise, travel on a particular carrier, non-stop travel, outbound travel departing in a predefined time period, return travel departing in a predefined time period, non-stop travel on a particular airline, or travel with an outbound departure on a first predefined date and a return arrival on a second predefined date.

Claim 33. (New) The method of claim 32 wherein the predefined time period comprises morning, afternoon, evening or a predefined date.

Claim 34. (New) The method of claim 28 further comprising defining a template of travel requirements.

Claim 35. (New) The method of claim 34 wherein generating the plurality of travel requirements comprises generating the plurality of travel requirements based at least in part on the template and the candidate set of travel options.

Claim 36. (New) The method of claim 34 further comprising analyzing the candidate set of travel options to determine parameter values for the template.

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Claim 37. (New) The method of claim 34 wherein the template comprises travel on a particular carrier, non-stop travel, outbound travel departing in a predefined time period, return travel departing in a predefined time period, non-stop travel on a particular airline, or travel with an outbound departure on a first predefined date and a return arrival on a second predefined date.

Claim 38. (New) The method of claim 37 wherein the predefined time period comprises morning, afternoon, evening or a predefined date.

Claim 39. (New) A method for generating a diverse set of travel options, the method comprising:

- generating a first ordered set of travel options using a first preference function;
- selecting a predefined number of best travel options from the first set where best travel options are selected according to satisfying the first preference function;
- generating a second ordered set of travel options using a second preference function, the second preference function being different from the first preference function;
- selecting a predefined number of best travel options from the second set where best travel options are selected according to satisfying the second preference function;
- and

combining according to a travel requirement selected ones of the first set and second set of travel options to generate the diverse set of travel options.

Claim 40. (New) The method of claim 39 further comprising generating a plurality of travel requirements, and

wherein selecting a predefined number of best travel options from the first set further comprises selecting, for each travel requirement, one or more travel options from the first set that satisfy that respective travel requirement, and

wherein selecting a predefined number of best travel options from the second set further comprises selecting, for each travel requirement, one or more travel options from the second set that satisfy that respective travel requirement.

Claim 41. (New) The method of claim 39 further comprising displaying the diverse set of travel options to a user.

Claim 42. (New) The method of claim 39 wherein the first preference function orders the travel options based at least in part on price and the second preference function orders the travel options based at least in part on travel time or number of stops.

Claim 43. (New) An article of manufacture having computer-readable program portions embodied therein for generating a diverse set of travel options, the article comprising instruction for causing a processor to:

receive a candidate set of travel options;

generate a plurality of travel requirements;

select one or more travel options for each of the plurality of travel requirement that satisfy that respective travel requirement; and

combine the one or more travel options selected for each requirement to generate a diverse set of travel options.

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Claim 44. (New) An article of manufacture having computer-readable program portions embodied therein for generating a diverse set of travel options, the article comprising instructions for causing a processor to:

generate a first ordered set of travel options using a first preference function;

select a predefined number of best travel options from the first set;

generate a second ordered set of travel options using a second preference function, the second preference function being different from the first preference function;

select a predefined number of best travel options from the second set; and

combine the selected travel options to generate the diverse set of travel options.

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Claim 45. (New) The article of claim 44 further comprising instructions for causing a processor to generate a plurality of travel requirements,

wherein the computer-readable program portion for selecting a predefined number of best travel options from the first set further comprises for each travel requirement, selecting one or more travel options from the first set that satisfy that travel requirement, and

wherein the computer-readable program portion for selecting a predefined number of best travel options from the second set further comprises for each travel requirement, selecting one or more travel options from the second set that satisfy that travel requirement.

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